## **ABSTRACT**

Formulations comprising a gas microsphere liposome composite suspended in a medium, wherein the gas microsphere liposome composite comprises: a gas-filled microsphere; at least one of a lipid and a surfactant adsorbed onto the surface of the gas-filled microsphere; and liquid-filled liposomes attached to the lipid or surfactant are described. Methods of preparing the same and using them in ultrasound imaging are also described. The present invention also comprises use of the same in treating heart disease, inflammation, infection, cancer or thromboembolic disease in a patient